



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE AGENTS ARREST SEX OFFENDER AT ICE, CIS OFFICES *Mexican criminal alien arrested at ICE office this morning*

HOUSTON—A Mexican national and registered sex offender was arrested Monday morning at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) office while attempting to apply for an immigration benefit with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS).

Agustin Gaytan, 37, a native of Mexico, was convicted of indecency with a child in August 1990. He served four-and-a-half years of an eight-year sentence at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). He later served another six months in Harris County jail after he failed to register with the State of Texas and Harris County as a sex offender, which he was required to do.

Agustin Gaytan entered the United States illegally near Mission, Texas, in 1988. Under the late legalization act he was granted legal permanent residence.

Gaytan visited the CIS Houston office attempting to renew his legal permanent resident card, when CIS information officers checked his name through the criminal database as part of routine procedure. The database identified Gaytan as a child molester, so CIS officers immediately notified ICE special agents who responded and arrested him. The ICE and CIS offices are located in the same building. Gaytan later admitted he had forced an 8-year-old boy to commit an indecent sexual act.

“Arresting sexual predators is an ICE high priority,” said Robert Rutt, special agent-in-charge. “It’s essential that we remove from the streets those who prey on the most vulnerable in our society, our children. We appreciate our ongoing partnership with CIS to accomplish this goal.” Rutt heads the ICE Office of Investigations for the greater Houston metropolitan area.

“CIS has a responsibility and an obligation to notify law enforcement when we encounter criminal aliens,” said Ruth Dorochoff, the CIS Houston acting district director. “We will provide service to ensure that the right person gets the right benefit. We continue to welcome immigrants from around the world. However, criminal aliens should also be forewarned that we routinely work with law enforcement agencies.”

Gaytan has been placed into deportation proceedings; an immigration judge will determine if he is a deportable criminal alien.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.